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Daily Eastern News: January 25, 2011

Eastern Illinois University

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Midas recognized as business of the year

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John Craft jersey retired at Eastern Mega Meet

Page 8

EVENT

Pantherpalooza will showcase RSOs again

By Erin Riedl
Staff Reporter

Eastern has an event called Pantherpalooza every fall semester, but for the first time this semester, Eastern is having a spring semester Pantherpalooza.

Pantherpalooza, a showcase for all Registered Student Organizations on campus, will take place this week. This will give transfer students and other students the chance to learn about organizations and how to get involved on campus.

This event is taking place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. Wednesday in the University Ballroom located in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

The different RSOs will be there and will provide information about the respective groups.

The student government and the University Board cooperated on this event.

Dan Rolando, the vice president for student affairs and Jessica Leggin, the UB public relations coordinator, are co-chairs of this event.

“I decided that (the) student government and (the) UB working together would make this event bigger and better,” Rolando said.

The event is open to everybody;

transfer students are encouraged to come since they may not have been able to attend the fall event.

There will be raffles, an interactive game and bingo available to students.

The bingo board will have fun facts about different RSOs and students must go around to the different tables to find out which RSO the fact is about.

“The bingo game is a good way for students to check out some RSOs that they may not have before,” Leggin said.

There will also be a T-shirt giveaway and raffles for students and the different RSOs present.

Prizes will be given away such as gift cards to the Union Bookstore.

The RSOs who signed up online for the Pantherpalooza will be put into a drawing to win a pizza party worth up to \$50.

However, the RSO that wins must be in attendance when its name is called.

“With the different raffles and bingo game, everyone has a chance to win something,” Leggin said.

Both Rolando and Leggin said they hope that many students come out to the event.

Erin Riedl can be reached at 581-2812 or edriedl@eiu.edu.

CUPB



KIMBERLY FOSTER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Taylor Beesley, a sophomore sociology major, waits as her information is copied at the office of financial aid in the Student Services building.

UNIVERSITY

Cautious spending of funds with delay in tuition money

By Shelley Holmgren
Administration Editor

The university is slowly receiving the tuition monies needed to stay afloat from lack of state funding. However, this money is trickling in at a slower pace than past years, said Adam Dodge, information technology security officer, at Friday’s meeting of the Council of University Planning and Budget.

“Tuition money is not coming in at the same pace as it usually does,” said Dodge, a member of the CUPB’s vice president for business affairs subcommittee. “This adds to some uncertainty along with the budget issues from the state.”

William Weber, the vice president for business affairs, anticipated the delay on tuition money.

“The economy is still slow and this is affecting students whose parents who provide financial support,” Weber said at the CUPB meeting.

However, this development is not surprising given the economic situation, Weber said.

“What this does is exasperate our cash flow situation a little bit,” he continued. “It looks like we’re in the same situation we were in a year ago today.”

To date, the university has received \$4.75 million from the state, 10 percent of the total appropriations.

Eastern has billed the state for \$35.8 million of its \$47.4 million appropriation.

“That’s 10 percent more than I expect-

ed to have from the state,” Weber said.

Despite receiving these funds, the university will still be in a tight budget crunch.

“Just this time last year I started spreading the years for class flowing saying we’re two months from Armageddon – that’s where we were at now,” Weber said. “If no money comes in from the state, we’re going to be feeling some difficulties.”

Earlier this month Illinois Democrats pushed legislation to temporarily raise income tax rate from 3 percent to 5 percent, a 66 percent jump. Gov. Pat Quinn, who signed this legislation last week, said the income tax increase is something the state needs to pay its bills, The Chicago Tribune reported.

This tax increase, effective Jan. 1 is expected to raise \$6 billion in total revenue, roughly what the state needed to fix its structural deficit, Weber said.

“It’s just enough money (for the state) to stop digging the hole, but not enough money to begin filling the hole up,” he added.

Because of this, Weber said the university will continue to remain very conservative when it comes to spending.

“Last year we really cut back our spending,” Weber said. “We will spend what we need to to keep running, but we need to continue doing that as conservatively as possible. This is a dry spell.”

Shelley Holmgren can be reached at 581-7942 or meholmgren@eiu.edu.

5 percent gap fixed for students

By Shelley Holmgren
Administration Editor

The university is in the process of appealing to the state of Illinois to restore the 5 percent MAP Grant restriction that students are facing this semester.

The Illinois Board of Higher Education has put together a task force to respond to MAP funding, said Jerry Donna, the director of financial aid, at the last meeting of the Council of University Planning and Budget on Friday. He added he will prepare a response for the task force.

“It doesn’t just affect our school, it affects all schools in Illinois,” he added.

On Dec. 15 the Illinois Student Assistance Commission notified all Illinois universities they needed to reduce the MAP grants for Spring 2011 by 5 percent

in order to avoid exceeding the overall appropriations.

The administration approved the use of Eastern’s waiver budget to cover money that was taken away from students who received the MAP grant for this school year.

“That wasn’t a very happy holiday greeting,” Donna said. “I don’t know of any other institution of the state that is handling it this way.”

The university is allotted a 3 percent waiver budget through the state of Illinois, which is now being used as a one-time measure to eliminate the 5 percent gap for students, said Dan Nadler, the vice president for student affairs.

The university participates in the waiver program, which falls under the discretionary waivers category, said Bob Augustine, the

dean of the Graduate School.

The MAP grant is a state-funded program given to eligible students who have applied by the deadline. 2,975 students are affected by the MAP Grant decrease in the spring semester alone.

Currently, the university offers \$11.7 million in MAP grant funding through the state, with \$5.8 million for the spring term. The amount of money that is needed to cover the deduction is somewhere between \$250,000 and \$290,000, Donna said.

CUPB member Amanda Bos, the assistant athletic director of development, questioned how this money would be used otherwise.

Augustine said this money is funding the university cannot collect from the state.

MAP, page 5

EIU weather

TODAY

WEDNESDAY



Mostly Cloudy
High: 29°
Low: 16°



Partly Cloudy
High: 29°
Low: 16°

THE DAILY
EASTERN NEWS

“Tell the truth and don’t be afraid.”

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About
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Corrections
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what's on tap

TUESDAY

10 a.m. Job prep buffet

A walk through service with tips and advice on how to be prepared for the job search in the Bridge Lounge in the MLK Jr. Union.

5 p.m. Italy study abroad

A meeting about a study abroad program from May 12 until May 31 in Italy about the meaning of a good life. The meeting will be in Coleman Hall, Room 3752.

WEDNESDAY

9 a.m. 30 minute resumes

Get a resume started and finished in just 30 minutes in Career Services.

10 a.m. Pantherpalooza Fair

A showcase of Eastern's many different Registered Student Organizations will take place in the University Ballroom in the MLK Jr. Union.

THURSDAY

4 p.m. Interview like a pro

A 60-minute clinic about what employers expect from prospective employees in Career Services. Reservations can be made by calling 581-2412.

If you want to add to the tap, please e-mail dennewsdesk@gmail.com or call 581-7942.

ONLINE



Video: Deadlines

Monday, Jan. 24, was the deadline to drop a course with no grade. Did you drop one? Some students did. Hear reasons why Eastern students think you should drop a course. Check out the video: To drop or not to drop? at DENnews.com by Julia Carlucci, the online editor.

Walking in a winter wonderland



JORDAN BONER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

The windows on the south side of Lumpkin Hall reflect a slowly melting winter landscape as students walk to and from their classes on Jan. 24.

Show them you’ve got it bad with a
Valentine’s Day love ad

1X3 ad for \$10

• Ads will run Mon. 2/14 in a special
Valentine’s Day section

Come by Student Publications in Buzzard Hall
or call 581-2816 by Thurs. 2/9 at 2 pm

EIU History Lesson

January 25

2008

The Eastern physics department allowed the public to come in and view Mars through a state-of-the-art telescope.

1993

Hoping to have a strong impact on the Eastern community, the Independent Political Union of students became the first group of its kind in the Midwest.

1980

The Board of Higher Education stated Eastern would need to decrease enrollment by 400 students by the following year.

1979

A heavy snowfall blanketed Charleston and caused several offices to close early. The snow was also the cause of slow food delivery and hazardous traveling.

BUDGET

Schools across Illinois struggle for funding

By Shelley Holmgren
 Administration Editor

Universities throughout Illinois are facing similar financial difficulties as Eastern due to lack of state funding.

On Jan. 11, *The Daily Eastern News* reported the university had only received \$907,000 from the state of Illinois, about 3 percent of its total appropriations.

The university has billed the state for \$35.8 million of its \$47.4 million appropriation, but the state has been unable to meet the majority of its financial obligations to the university.

Because of this, Eastern will be relying heavily on tuition monies to keep up with operational costs, said Treasurer Paul McCann.

Southern Illinois University at Edwardsville is facing a similar financial crunch. The SIU system is still owed \$147 million for the 2011 fiscal year from the state of Illinois. This is the entire amount owed for the fiscal year, *The Alestle* reported on Jan. 13.

Dave Gross, SIUE executive assistant for government affairs, said \$34 million is owed to SIUE for FY11 as of December.

Illinois State University is also facing a similar crisis.

For fiscal year 2011, ISU has been appropriated \$79.78 million from the state, *The Vidette* reported on Jan. 13. The university has only received \$4.26 million.

Dan Layzell, ISU's vice president of finance and planning, told *The Vi-*

dette he was not surprised the university was in this crunch.

"It was expected," he said. "We had been told by the state that this was just the way it was going to be. The state budget continues to be problematic."

ISU has an \$80 million state appropriated budget and 22.9 percent of the appropriated funds come from the state of Illinois.

Some universities have to take dire measures to avoid being crushed by budgetary constraints.

On Jan. 5 of last year, the University of Illinois administration announced faculty and administrators would be required to take up to 10 unpaid furlough days by mid-June.

About 11,000 university em-

ployees at the campuses at Urbana-Champaign, Chicago and Springfield were affected by furloughs.

However, the U of I is not the only institution implementing furlough days. On Nov. 3, 2010, Rita Cheng, Chancellor for Southern Illinois University at Carbondale, informed the SIUC campus that four unpaid furlough days would be implemented.

Over 7,000 employees were affected by this action. On Jan. 3, the SIUC endured its third furlough day, with the fourth following in March.

SIUC's 2011 budget projects an opening cash balance of approximately \$40.9 million and an ending balance of \$34.8 million, *The Daily Egyptian* reported.

Eastern will not have to worry about furlough days as of yet. As a part of the tentative agreement between Eastern's chapter of University Professional's of Illinois and the administration, furlough days will only be implemented in time of dire financial need and will be discussed with the union in such an occasion.

Come late February when the university will no longer be able to stay afloat by tuition money, the revenue collected from the income tax increase may arrive just in the nick of time.

Shelley Holmgren can be reached at 581-2812 or meholmgren@eiu.edu.

BRIEF

Lion's Writer Festival begins

The Lion's Writer Festival will begin today at 4 p.m. in the Black Box of the Doudna Fine Arts Center.

This is the third time for the event, which is hosted by English department, and features writers from the Midwest or of interest to Eastern students.

Today, Jonathan Starke, an essay and nonfiction writer will be the first guest.

Miho Nonaka, nonfiction and poetry writer, will present on Wednesday and M. Heather Carver, a performance art writer will present on Thursday.

Each writer will present in the Black Box at 4 p.m.

BRIEF

Career tips

Students can pick up information to help prepare for the workplace at the "Job Prep Buffet" today from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in the Bridge Lounge in the Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Information will be available on how to search for a job or internships for students.

The "Job Prep Buffet" also includes tips and advice regarding resumes, cover letters, networking and interviewing.

There will also be a walk-thru service where students who are in a hurry can grab information on the go.

Staff members will be available throughout the event to answer questions that students might have about the process involved with trying to get a job.

ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chicago throws Emanuel off ballot

By the Associated Press

CHICAGO — Chicago election officials gave the go-ahead Monday to print millions of ballots for the city's mayoral election without Rahm Emanuel's name, after an appellate court ruled earlier in the day to kick the former White House chief of staff off the ballot.

Emanuel's lawyers quickly sought help from the Illinois Supreme Court to keep his name on the ballot.

Officials with the Chicago Board of Election Commissioners said they had waited to start printing ballots for the Feb. 22 election until the Il-

linois appellate court ruling, which found Emanuel's name cannot be on the ballot because he did not live in Chicago for a year before the election.

With time running out, Emanuel's lawyers filed an emergency motion with the high court to stop the appellate court ruling and asked the court to tell Chicago election officials to keep his name on ballots. They also asked the Supreme Court justices to expedite an appeal, which they said would be filed no later than Tuesday.


"The election board's chairman, Langdon Neal, said there was not much time to print ballots, particular-

ly because absentee ballots needed to be sent out in the coming days.

"We can't wait and stop what we're doing to adjust to every possibility that may occur," said Neal. "The possible situations that could occur are numerous."

Neal said absentee ballots would be printed first starting Tuesday but that an order for 2 million ballots without Emanuel's name had been placed.

Neal and other election officials declined to discuss in detail what could happen if the Illinois Supreme Court decided to take on the Emanuel case and overturned the ruling.



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STAFF EDITORIAL

Charleston
should rescue
Will Rogers
Theater

As reported in *The Daily Eastern News* on Monday, Jan 24, there is a growing movement in Charleston to have the Will Rogers Theater recognized as a historic local landmark.

The editorial board supports this movement and believes its success would go far in preserving an important piece of Charleston's past and revitalizing its future.

The Will Rogers Theater was built in the 1930s and is the only building in Charleston built in the Art Deco style.

The theater was the main cinema in the area for over a generation. It was a place to watch movies and make memories; the Internet abounds with stories of first dates and first kisses at the Will Rogers.

Over the years, the theater has fallen into disrepair. It has changed owners several times and the current owner, AMC, closed its doors last November. It has sat vacant ever since.

The recession has been particularly hard on movie theaters and the success of websites like Netflix and Hulu have only made things harder.

As it is, the Will Rogers is an empty, if pretty, building taking up quite a bit of space in downtown Charleston.

If nothing is done to rescue the theater, AMC could sell it to the highest bidder and the Will Rogers, along with its history and memories, could be gutted to make way for yet another dollar store.

But if the building is granted landmark status it could become a cultural hub of the Charleston community.

The Will Rogers could host community theater, concerts, lectures, forums and, of course, films. Charleston could be a place that proudly hosts independent filmmakers from all over the country.

Some argue that such a project is unfeasible in these tough economic times. True, it is hard enough for businesses in Charleston to merely stay afloat these days.

However, if the Will Rogers did obtain landmark status, it would qualify for hundreds of thousands of dollars in Tax Increment Funding, and the government would be able to match contributions from individual donors.

We believe that preserving the past, and promoting the pride and culture of this community, is a worthy cause at any time.

The Will Rogers Theater has the potential to create economic growth. But the theater also carries with it a sense of identity, something priceless to a community like Charleston.

The DAILY
EASTERN NEWS
"Tell the truth and don't be afraid."

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COLUMN

Value of education lost on many Americans

I am a nerd and in America that is not something to be proud of.

I say this because, at least in compulsory education and still somewhat at the higher levels, students who enjoy reading or who excel in academics are sometimes mocked by their peers.

Being a product of the American education system for the past 17 years, I feel qualified to say there is something wrong when being educated means being branded as a nerd or a geek.

Education is not highly valued in our society. Perhaps the saying "familiarity breeds contempt," best explains it. Public education is a staple of the American system and has been since 1918, when all of the states required children to at least complete elementary school.

Prior to this, education was not guaranteed. Many people did not have easy access to education or were able to dedicate the time to it. A quality education was something only the rich could afford.

But now that education up to the 12th grade is free and mandatory, people have started to value it less.

A few weeks back, around the time everyone was panicking about his or her Zodiac sign being different, the national media began report-



Emily Steele

ing on a scary trend in higher education.

A new book titled "Academically Adrift: Limited Learning on College Campuses" by sociologists Richard Arum of New York University and Josipa Roksa of the University of Virginia found that students who graduate college are lacking critical thinking skills.

The book is based on information from 24 schools that participated on the condition that they were not identified. The schools provided Collegiate Learning Assessment data on students who took the standardized test in first semester and end of sophomore years.

Results from four-year studies showed that 36 percent of students did not demonstrate significant improvement compared to a 45 percent after two years.

The study also showed that students who studied alone learned more than those who studied in groups, and that social engagement in groups like the Greek system had decreased rates of learning.

People argue about cost and they argue about how American students are not up to global standards, but they are forgetting the consequences of a second-rate education system.

Students who graduate are not prepared for the expectations and rigors of an eight-hour work day.

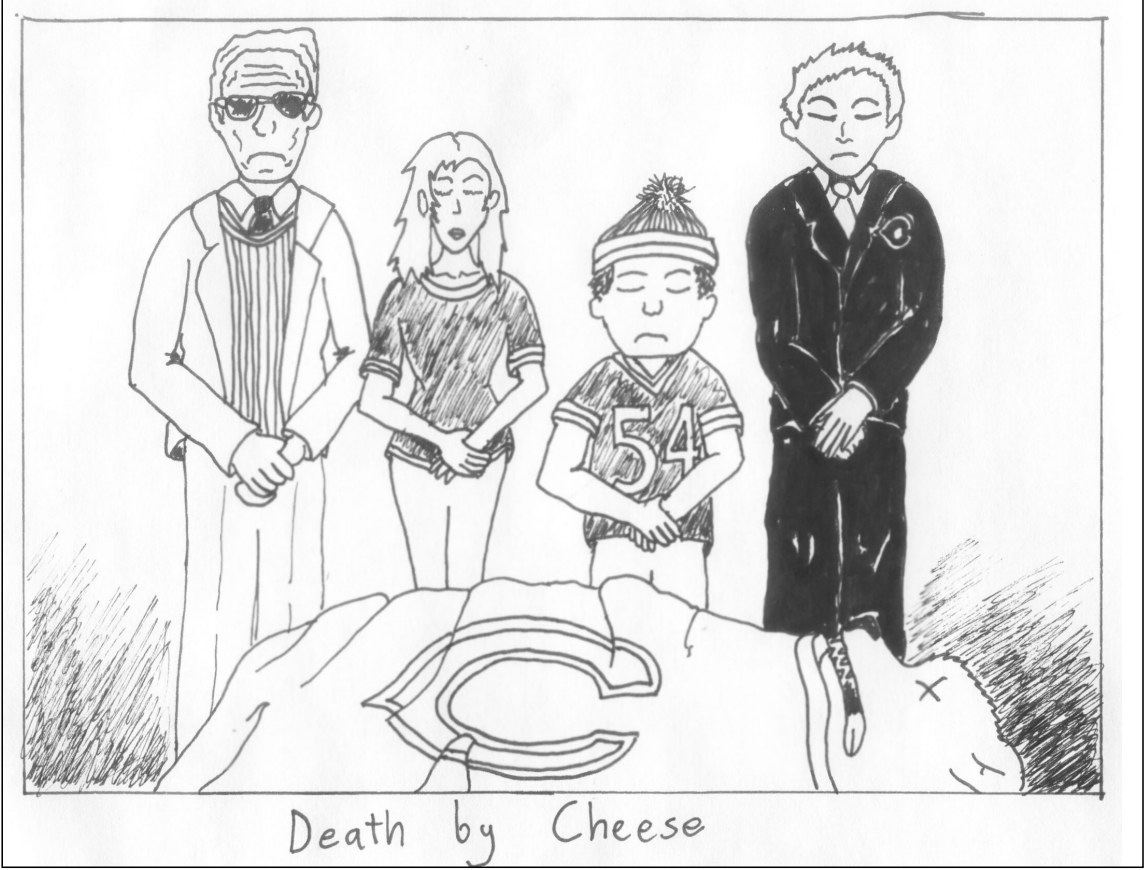
Part of the research followed up on students one year after they graduated and found that one third of those students had moved back home and one out of 10 were unemployed.

I am graduating at the end of this semester and the thought of living at home is not appealing so if being a nerd gets me a job so be it.

All I am saying is that there is something fundamentally wrong if our education system is not educating people.

Emily Steele is a senior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com.

FROM THE EASEL



SETH SCHROEDER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

COLUMN

Learning takes many different forms

Throughout my years at Eastern, I have experienced many different teachers and teaching styles. Some professors lecture, other use PowerPoint and some even send you out to learn by doing.

I have taken several classes where the teacher just stands in front of the room and reiterates everything I was supposed to read in the book. Yes, I can learn this way, but it makes it harder to go to class when the teacher is strictly going to stand and talk.

Other teachers spice it up by using a PowerPoint to go over the lecture. This can be helpful, but I still feel like I only remember the information to get through the test, and then it is all gone.

However, the teaching style I find most effective is hands-on learning. For a sports writing class I took, the professor had the class cover an actual sports beat for Charleston High School.

We had to cover a certain number of games, find feature stories and do season previews. All of the stories had to be posted online with photos. We were given



Abby Allgire

strict requirements and deadlines to meet as well.

Instead of lecturing during class, we would go over our stories and get critiques, and use class time for working on our beats if we needed it.

The class involved a lot of work outside of the classroom, but I learned so much more than I would have from just sitting in the classroom. I got hands on experience and clips I was able to add to my portfolio.

I still use some of the things I learned and did in that class. The hands-on learning was a lot closer to what I would experience in the "real world" than the lec-

tures were.

In a class I am in now, we have to write editorials and columns for the Daily Eastern News. The class focuses on opinion writing, so the professor is getting us to actually write for the paper. This is also a hands-on learning experience that provides me with experience in the field I want to study, and will also give me more clips to add to my portfolio.

There are many different teaching styles and one is not necessarily better than the others, but hands-on learning has been the most effective and enjoyable for me. I have taken so much more from the classes that force me to apply my learning than I have from the classes that just force me to memorize information for a test.

I definitely believe that my hands-on classes have prepared me for what I would experience at a job and in my future endeavors.

Abby Allgire is a senior journalism major. She can be reached at 581-7942 or at DENopinions@gmail.com.

Letters to the editor can be submitted at any time on any topic to the Opinions Editor to be published in *The Daily Eastern News*.
The DEN's policy is to run all letters that are not libelous or potentially harmful. They must be less than 250 words.

Letters to the editor can be brought in with identification to *The DEN* at 1811 Buzzard Hall.
Letters may also be submitted electronically from the author's EIU e-mail address to DENopinions@gmail.com.

BLOTTER
Many thefts were reported recently

- At 5:17 p.m. on Tuesday it was reported that a theft had occurred on Jan. 13 at the Student Recreation Center. This incident is under investigation.
- At 4:12 p.m. on Wednesday it was reported that a gray Ford was damaged by an unknown vehicle while parked at an off campus location.
- At 10:33 a.m. on Thursday a private property accident occurred at Greek Court. No citations were issued.
- At 6:27 p.m. on Thursday it was reported that a theft had occurred on Jan. 19 at the Union Bookstore. This incident is under investigation.

• At 2:43 a.m. on Friday Chase Aubin, 19, 1817 S. Ninth St. Apt. 3, Charleston, was arrested at the intersection of Fourth Street and Roosevelt Avenue. He was charged with DUI-alcohol, a Blood Alcohol Content greater than .08, and illegal transportation of alcohol. He was released at 4:38 a.m. after posting 10 percent of a \$3000 bond.

MAP, from page 1

“The institution will have to review the overall budget to determine the ramifications (of this action),” he said.

“We’ll have to see what this will mean for the university.”

This is not the first time students have had to face difficulties with the MAP grant.

On April 19 of last year, ISAC denied approximately 30,000 applicants due to lack of funding, *The Daily Eastern News* reported.

In response to this, 13 students from the Student Action Team traveled to Springfield for College Student Lobby Day at the Capitol Building to speak against the funding restrictions on April 22.

Shelley Holmgren can be reached at 581-7942 or meholmgren@eiu.edu.

CITY
Midas makes its mark in the community

By Elizabeth Edwards
City Editor

Charleston Midas has received national, regional, and district awards from the Midas franchise over the years.

Midas received recognition as the small business of the year award by Charleston Area Chamber of Commerce, Saturday.

The owners, John and Lucy Inyart, have owned and operated the Charleston Midas for 22 years and own the Midas in Mattoon as well.

“We feel good about the way we take care of our customers,” John Inyart said.

Inyart said many factors influence the success of his business.

“Combination of maintaining quality staff, investment in training, investment in equipment and accurate facilities help make us look like professionals,” Inyart said.

The criterion for the award was a small business that had made a significant contribution to the local community and economy.

The Inyarts have given back to the community in several different capacities.

They have supported Habitat for Humanity, Big Brothers Big Sisters, Fox Ridge Foundation, and youth sports.

Inyart has served as mayor for Charleston since 2005 and is chairman for Coles Together.

“As we are part of the community we try to support the organizations that make Coles County a great place to live,” John Inyart said.



JORDAN BONER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Midas is located directly across from Old Main on the other side of often busy Lincoln Avenue. The photo was taken Thursday, Jan. 24.

As a young man, Inyart worked in his father’s shoe shop in Charleston where he learned valuable customer skills.

He said he applies the lessons learned by his experience in his father’s shoe shop today.

Inyart said the award was not about him, individually but it is a team effort.

“Its about great customers that trust us,” Inyart said.

Midas has 19 full time employees and two part-time employees on staff.

John Inyart said the key to employ-

ee retention is to maintain a safe work environment and updated equipment.

Two-thirds of the Midas employees have been there for 8 years or longer.

Fred Davison and four other employees have been at Midas for fifteen years or longer.

Jim Long, manager of the Charleston Midas, said their friendly attitude keeps customers coming back to Midas.

Currently, Midas is top ten for oil changes performed in the entire system.

Both the Charleston and Mattoon

shops have seen more repairs then nearly all repair shops in the country.

“We have consistently have seen more cars then other Midas shops,” Inyart said.

Midas received recognition during the meeting portion of the Chamber of Commerce Dinner in Grand Ballroom in Martin Luther King Jr. University Union.

Elizabeth Edwards can be reached at 281-2812 or eaedwards@eiu.edu.

STATE
Oprah Winfrey finds sister she did not know she had

By The Associated Press

CHICAGO — Oprah Winfrey has discovered she has a half-sister — a Milwaukee woman who was given up for adoption by Winfrey’s mother nearly 50 years ago, when the talk show host was eight years old.

An emotional Winfrey introduced her newly found sibling to viewers Monday and explained the wom-

an’s persistent quest to find her birth mother.

“This, my friends, is the miracle of all miracles,” Winfrey said before bringing out the 48-year-old woman, who throughout the program was identified only as Patricia, with no mention of her occupation or any other details.

After years of searching for blood relatives, the woman met Winfrey on

Thanksgiving Day of last year.

When Patricia was born in Milwaukee in 1963, the young Winfrey was living with her father and did not even know her mother was pregnant, she said.

Patricia, who Winfrey said bounced from foster home to foster home until she was adopted at age 7, had given up after previous searches for her mother.

But she decided to resume looking

several years ago at the insistence of her grown children.

The effort seemed to hit a dead end when a woman from the Wisconsin adoption agency called to respond to her inquiries.

“She was telling me that my birth mother had called her back, and she had made the decision at that particular time that she did not want to see me,” Patricia said.



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The New York Times

Edited by Will Shortz

No. 1221

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- 1 Do a double-take, e.g.
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 - 11 Composition of Jack Haley's Oz character
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- 24 Gershwin's "The ____ Love"
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- 26 Keatsian or Pindaric
- 27 Pet advocacy org.
- 28 Grades K-12
- 29 Allotment of one, usually, for an airline passenger
- 32 Make improvements to
- 33 Turned chicken
- 35 One calling the shots
- 36 "I'd hate to break up ____"
- 38 One of four on a Rolls
- 39 Cut jaggedly
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CRAFT, from page 8

John Craft becomes only the seventh Eastern athlete to have a jersey retired. Craft becomes the first track and field athlete to have a jersey retired.

Craft said he felt honored to be in the same category as the six other athletes who have also had their jerseys retired.

“To be in the same class as these outstanding men and women, it’s really an honor,” Craft said.

As well as having his jersey retired, Craft will also be honored with the EIU Mega Meet being renamed to

the John Craft Invitational.

Craft said it was a tremendous honor to have a meet named after him.

Craft spoke highly of former track and field coach Pat O’Brien, calling him his mentor. Craft said it was O’Brien who really nurtured his talent and helped him to go on and be successful. Craft said O’Brien taught him the values of loyalty, honesty, integrity, and instilled a competitive nature in him.

Craft also got a chance to take a look at the current Eastern track and field team and was very impressed

with what he saw.

Craft said the team looked excellent and well coached by head coach Tom Akers. Craft said the team can make another run at an Ohio Valley Conference championship and said he feels confident that the team can win it.

After receiving his honor, Craft joined the Panther track and field team in the middle of the fieldhouse for a breakout, led by Craft.

Dominic Renzetti can be reached at 581-7944 or dcrenzetti@eiu.edu.

TEAM, from page 8

Laser sits for ninth straight game

Senior guard Tyler Laser sat out his ninth straight game with a back injury. The Panthers are 4-5 without Laser in the line-up.

Laser currently ranks seventh in Eastern history in career three-point shots made with 165.

He needs 13 more threes this season to move into sixth all-time. Eastern’s record for career three-point shots made is held by Henry Domercant with 285.

Eastern head coach Mike Miller

said he is unsure when Laser would be back in the starting line-up.

Around the OVC

TyShawn Edmondson, a junior guard from Austin Peay won OVC Player of the Week honors for averaging 24 points, 5.5 rebounds and two steals a game in games against Tennessee Tech and Jacksonville State.

Edmondson also took home OVC Newcomer of the Week honors. He leads the conference and ranks 27th in the nation in scor-

ing with 19.8 points a game. He has been one of the main cogs in Austin Peay’s run to the top of the OVC standings.

Eastern Kentucky beat Morehead State 59-49 in Morehead, Ken. The loss snapped Morehead’s 24-game winning-streak at home.

Senior forward Kenneth Faried grabbed a season-high 21 rebounds; however, he was limited offensively scoring six points.

Rob Mortell can be reached at 581-7944 or rdmortell@eiu.edu.

WOMEN’S BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

Crunk on tear

Panthers fall to three-game skid

By Alex McNamee
Staff Reporter

Freshman guard Jordyne Crunk is averaging 9 points per game in January; in fact, excluding the Jan. 6 win against Southern Illinois-Edwardsville, in which she scored only one point, Crunk is averaging nearly 11 points per game.

Head coach Brady Saltee said of Crunk, after she scored 12 points against Morehead State Jan. 15 that the coaches like where she is in her game right now.

Crunk said after the Morehead State game she is starting to get used to her role as a player off of the bench.

Saltee said Crunk and assistant head coach Lee Buchanan have been working on her shooting stroke a lot in practices.

In the month of January, Crunk is shooting 42 percent from beyond the three-point line; however, excluding the first two games of January, Crunk is shooting 54 percent.

Crunk’s month of January is similar to the impressive month of February that sophomore forward Sydney Mitchell had last season.

Mitchell averaged 10.3 points per game in February last season. She also averaged 85 percent from the free throw line.

Including February, Mitchell was only averaging 5.7 points per game last season at the time that her scoring numbers started to increase.

Crunk is averaging 5.7 points per game this season. She is averaging 8.3 points per game in games against Ohio Valley Conference foes, fifth on the team.

In five of eight February games last season, Mitchell was among the team’s top three scorers.

In January, Crunk has only been among the team’s top three scorers two of six times; however, she has set a career-high in points in a game twice. There are still two games left in January.

Wyss heats up from three

Sophomore guard Kelsey Wyss hit a career-high five three pointers in Saturday’s loss to Tennessee-Martin.

She scored a total of 17 points, scoring 15 of them from three-point land. Wyss was the team’s third highest scorer in the game.



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS
Ta’Kenya Nixon, a sophomore guard, throws the ball up during the game against Morehead State Jan. 15 in Lantz Arena.

Wyss hit five of the team’s seven three pointers and attempted nine of the team’s 16 total.

Around the OVC

There are only three teams in the OVC with winning overall records. There are only five teams with winning conference records.

Eastern is the fifth team with a winning conference record, one win over .500, at 5-4. However, Eastern is one of the eight OVC teams with a losing record at 9-10. The Panthers are fifth in the OVC.

The Panthers are 5-4 in the conference despite being 5-1 a little over a week ago. In the standings, the Panthers trail Austin Peay, who beat them in last season’s OVC Championship game, by one game.

The Panthers are two games behind Morehead State and Tennessee-Martin. Both of those teams currently own the tiebreaker over the Panthers.

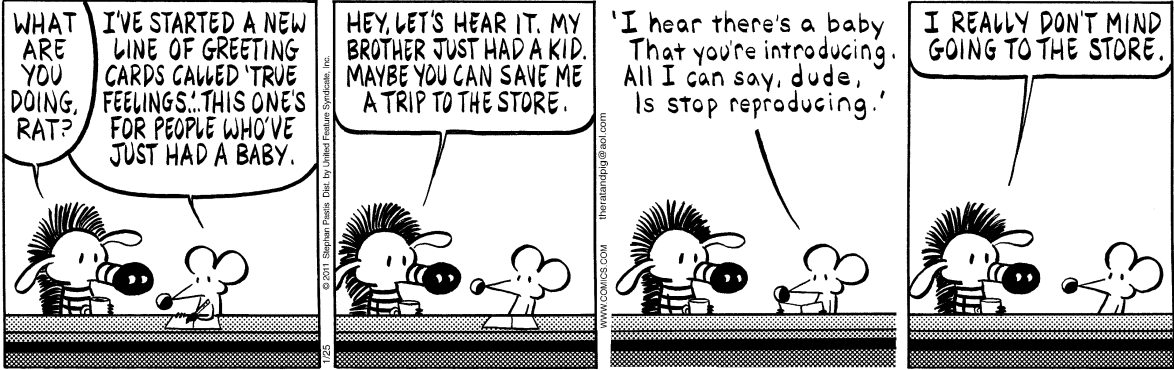
Tennessee Tech is currently leading the conference with an 8-1 OVC record and a 14-4 overall record.

The Panthers will host Tennessee Tech 5:30 p.m. Thursday in Lantz Arena to try to snap their three-game losing streak.

Alex McNamee can be reached at 581-7944 or admcnamee@eiu.edu.

COMICS

PEARLS BEFORE SWINE BY STEPHAN PASTIS



GET FUZZY BY DARBY CONLEY



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JOHN CRAFT



DANNY DAMIANI | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

John Craft, a former triple jumper for Eastern from 1965 until 1969, reacts when he is told the EIU Mega Meet is being renamed the John Craft Invitational Saturday during his uniform retiring presentation in the Lantz Field House.

Jumper honored at meet

Meet to be renamed after Craft

By Dominic Renzetti
Assistant Sports Editor

Saturday, former Eastern triple jumper and assistant coach John Craft had his jersey retired at the EIU Mega Meet held in Lantz

Fieldhouse.

Craft, who attended Eastern from 1965 to 1969, was one of the most successful athletes to ever compete in Eastern track and field, winning three national championships during his senior season.

Craft finished third at the NCAA University Division Championships, and was the first Eastern Illinois University Division-I All-American. To this day, Craft still holds the school's outdoor triple

jump record, as well as one of the top ten indoor triple jump records.

After graduating from Eastern, Craft went on to win numerous AAU indoor and outdoor competitions, as well as competing in the 1972 Munich Olympics, where he placed fifth in the triple jump.

Craft was later offered a job by then track and field coach, and Eastern hall of fame member, Pat O'Brien. Craft accepted the job as an assistant coach and remained

with the team until he retired in 2002.

President William Perry and Tom Akers, director of track and field, presented a special jersey and plaque to Craft at the meet Saturday. A banner honoring John Craft appears on the northwest corner wall of the Lantz Fieldhouse.

"I'm speechless and overjoyed," Craft said after receiving his honor.

CRAFT, page 9

MEN'S BASKETBALL NOTEBOOK

Team lets opposing bench dominate

Panthers stay in seventh place

By Rob Mortell
Sports Editor

Eastern's men's basketball team lost a heartbreaking game to the University of Tennessee at Martin when Benzor Simmons hit a three-point shot with 25 seconds left.

It was the third time this season the Panthers had lost by three or less points. They are 1-4 in games decided by five points or less.

Simmons came off the bench and scored 21 points, which tied a season-high. The 21 points were the most points the Panthers gave up to an opposing bench player this season.

The loss brings Eastern's Ohio Valley Conference record to 4-5

on the season and places them seventh in the conference; however, it is only three games back of Austin Peay and Tennessee State.

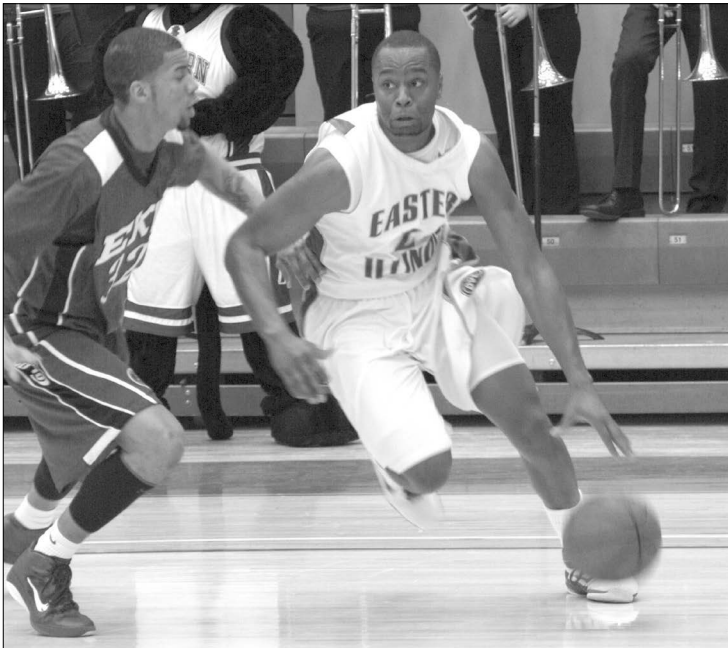
Hollowell continues to climb blocks list

Red-shirt sophomore James Hollowell is on his way to becoming the best shot-blocker in Eastern's history.

Nineteen games into his second full season as a Panther, Hollowell is already seventh on the all-time blocks list with 61 career blocks. With at least 11 games remaining this season, it is likely that Hollowell will move into third all-time, as he needs 14 more blocks.

NBA All-Star Kevin Duckworth is currently Eastern's all-time leading shot-blocker with 123 career blocks.

TEAM, page 9



AUDREY SAWYER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Curry McKinney, a senior guard, makes his way around Eastern Kentucky's Spencer Perrin Jan. 13 in Lantz Arena.

VIEWS



Brad Kupiec

NFL has changed Pro Bowl

This weekend, the NFL schedule will take a week off before the Green Bay Packers and Pittsburgh Steelers square off in Super Bowl XLV.

Something is different this year, as the Pro Bowl, or the NFL's version of an all-star game, will be played the week before the Super Bowl rather than after.

This is one thing NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell has changed about the league that I absolutely do not like.

One thing that the Pro Bowl's movement does is break with tradition.

The Pro Bowl, always held in Hawaii, has always signified the end of the season, and has always closed the season in grand style, with a game that feels more like a party.

With the Pro Bowl now being held before the season is over, it takes away from the feeling of grandeur people feel in the Super Bowl, because there's already been the end-of-the-season Hawaiian party, making the Super Bowl feel anticlimactic.

Another problem with the Super Bowl being played after the Pro Bowl is that the players from each Super Bowl team will not participate in the Pro Bowl, and in theory the best teams have the best players.

So that takes away credibility from the Pro Bowl, because the players from each conference's best team will be busy preparing for the Super Bowl.

An all-star AFC Team without Ben Roethlisberger, Troy Polamalu, or Hines Ward will just seem empty this week.

An NFC Squad without Aaron Rodgers or Charles Woodson just wouldn't feel right.

With the Pro Bowl after the Super Bowl, these and other players from the Steelers and Packers would be able to participate, lending the game some more star power, which the Pro Bowl can sure use.

And honestly, the Super Bowl and Pro Bowl have been juxtaposed as they were for so many years for a reason.

They were not randomly thrown together. The Pro Bowl comes the week after the Super Bowl for a combination of reasons, so why change?

Last year's Pro Bowl was the first played in January since 1989, and also the first played outside of Hawaii since 1990. It has worked this way for 20 years, why break it up now?

So consider this a personal plea to NFL Commissioner Roger Goodell to return the Pro Bowl to its rightful place.

Please, Roger, do not mess with the tradition, and don't keep the league's top two teams from being represented at a game that is supposed to showcase the NFL's best.

It just does not make sense.

Brad Kupiec can be reached at 581-7944 or bmkupeic@eiu.edu.

EASTERN SPORTS SCHEDULE

Men's Basketball
Thursday vs. Tennessee Tech
7:30 p.m. – Lantz Arena

Women's Basketball
Thursday vs. Tennessee Tech
5:30 p.m. – Lantz Arena

M&W Swimming
Friday vs. IUPUI
3:30 p.m. – Padovan Pool

Women's Indoor Track
Saturday at Illinois Intercollegiate
TBA – Urbana-Champaign

Men's Indoor Track
Saturday at Illinois Intercollegiate
TBA – Urbana-Champaign

For more please see eiupanthers.com

NATIONAL SPORTS

Tennis
Australian Open Quarterfinals
6 p.m. on ESPN2

NCAA
Florida at Georgia
6 p.m. on ESPN

NHL
Minnesota at Chicago
7:30 p.m. on Comcast Chicago

NCAA
Purdue at Ohio State
8 p.m. on ESPN

NCAA
Oklahoma at Kansas
7 p.m. on FSN